

THE GLEICHEN CALL

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LARGE ATTENDANCE AT THE OLD TIMERS DANCE

A larger crowd than usual attended the 10th annual Old Timers' dance last Friday night and it was plain to see that everyone enjoyed themselves to the limit.

There is something about this annual dance that always brings out a packed house. There is no other dance like it, including the New Year's Eve dance staged by the 22nd Battery that attracts the people whether it is the old time music under the leadership of Art Brennan, the old time dances, or the possibility of meeting old friends that draws the people in hard to say. It is probably a combination of all of them. Anyway every body sets out to make a real night of it and they have a hilarious time. So well did they enjoy themselves that the other night at 8:30 o'clock when the last dance was played most of the crowd was still there. And after that they still had to go home for at 11 o'clock quite a few of the dancers were roaming around town.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM COM. BENJAMIN ORAMES, OF THE SALVATION ARMY

Once again, in the Season of the Birthday of the Christ Child, people want to give or share not only their worldly goods, but the many small, happy life that make this, of all seasons of the year, the most unforgettable.

Unfortunately for many people, the sharing stops with the Christmas season. We hear many stories these days, from the occupied countries. They say themselves, that many of them for the first time, know what it is to share—their daily bread—the small luxuries that may once in a long while, come their way—but most of all, the small incidents of daily living and companionship.

In this fifth Christmas of a world at war, of The Salvation Army, issues to offer a special prayer of thankfulness that in the coming year, we may look for Peace, and that all kind of fellowships, and the cornerstones. We recognize the gigantic tasks we have to make this a happy Peace and, with the spirit of the Christ Child ever before us, can not fail.



DE. K. W. NEATBY
Director
Alberta Wheat Producers' Association
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Wheat Varieties in 1944

It looks as though the wheat varieties now recommended in the Prairie Provinces have pretty well settled down. A few interesting comparisons between provinces follow.

Manitoba
Recent increased sharply, from 24.7% in 1943, to 34.9%. It now threatens the supremacy of Saskatchewan which fell from 45.6% in 1943, to 39.2% this year. Recent decline from 19.9% to 16.6%.

Saskatchewan
The picture in Saskatchewan is variable. Thatcher continues to increase at the expense of all other varieties. Even recent fall of a little this year. One interesting exception to this statement deserves mention. Our old friend Grant, in the increase in the north. In Zone 4, the grey wheated area, Grant increased from 2.2% of the crop in 1943 to 6.2% in 1944. This development is even more pronounced in Alberta.

Alberta
Though Red Bobs continue to slip a little, it is still the most popular variety in the province by a wide margin. This year, it occupied 44.2% of the acreage. Thatcher increased from 14.0% in 1943, to 16.4% this year. Marquis declined from 30.1% to 27.3% in the year. Grant occupied 6.0% of the Alberta acreage; last year, only 2.2%. In Zone 4A, the grey wheated area, less Peace River, Bob Grant increased from 13.5% to 20.6%.

The above figures are comparable with those published in the last year's issue. They are unweighted averages of elevator agents' estimates. They do not check with the figures in Circular No. 7, which were weighted by total wheat acreage at shipping points. The differences do not materially affect the comparisons we have made.

R. S. McQUEEN PURCHASES THE MCKAY HARDWARE

R. S. McQueen, one of Gleichen's most progressive business men, has purchased the McKay Hardware Store. He took possession Monday. Mr. McQueen plans to manage the store himself and has engaged an experienced hardware man to attend to the wants of the customers. He plans to greatly increase the stock if it is at all possible to obtain it. Mr. McQueen will continue to manage his draying and trucking businesses as he has in the past. His friends wish him every success in his new venture.

OTTAWA LETTER BY F. W. GERSHAW, M. P.

There is a striking difference of opinion on the conscription issue that crosses party lines. Strong conservative views are found in ranks of the liberal party. One Cabinet Minister resigned because conscription was adopted in the policy. One so-called seceder because conscription had not been introduced soon.

In the House there were many speeches made without party considerations. Colonel Lapointe, son of the late Minister of Justice, made an eloquent appeal. He praised the Prime Minister, paid high tribute to his great success in maintaining unity and peace in Canada and he vigorously lauded the advanced social policy of Mr. King had been responsible for. He knew of no one who could replace him as Prime Minister. He knew, however, he would never vote with Mr. King on the sending of the N. R. M. A. men Overseas. He was a member of such a party. There would be evasion and perjury, dodged, and people have lost faith in the solemn pledges of public men for a generation.

Colonel Lapointe recalled the courageous actions of the men overseas. He said that he had lost more than half of his own company, a French Canadian unit on June 6, D Day. They at once received reinforcements from a New Brunswick regiment from a Winnipeg unit, and from the Regina Rifles. These boys, from Montreal and from the West, fought together against a common foe. There was no question of race, religion or creed. There was a spirit of brotherhood and a common purpose. He looked for a similar community spirit on the home front.

Another liberal, an officer of the Air Force, will vote with the opposition because no provision had been made for sending the N.R.M.A. men to Japan, China or Burma. He praised Canada's war effort, agreed that the Zombie Army, that is the N.R.M.A. men, should be sent overseas but that making them available for service in Britain, N.W. Europe and the Mediterranean area was not enough.

During the last few months, to infantry casualties were much higher than estimated, although the overall casualties were less than had been planned for. The reinforcement pool in Europe would need more infantry men by January 30, 1945.

Colonel Ralston and General McNaughton were agreed on this and plans are made to send 16,000 men, in addition to the regular flow from all other sources. Ten thousand are to go by January 30, and then 2,000 per month as shipping was available. All N.R.M.A. men were conscripted by the order when needed and when fit. All members of the House recognized that reinforcements must be provided if needed, but members differed as to where they should come from. The government took the view that the N.R.M.A. men, many of them trained, should be sent. This policy, though bitterly attacked by extremists on both sides, meets the requirements and is supported by the majority of its members. Ottawa, December 7th.

FROM THE FILES OF THE CALL TWENTY YEARS AGO

Miss Hall has arrived from England to reside with her brother, S. A. Hall.

The town water has been piped in to the curling rink and all is now ready for the roarin' game. The work of laying brick on the new hotel on Crowfoot Street is fast approaching completion, being now up to the top of the second story and if the weather remains fine may be completed by the end of the present

BRITISH TANKS PUSH THROUGH HOLLAND TO GERMANY The first British troops to enter land.

The Bow Valley Hockey League has again been fully drenched taking in the towns of Brooks, Bassano, Cluny and Gleichen. The officers for this season are: E. R. Bannantyne, Cluny; M. M. Staback, Gleichen and Dr. Keith, Bassano.

A Thorsen left last Friday to spend the winter with his family at Spokane, Wash.

The new town of Milo is to have a water supply. We need to get our looking things over lately and think the opportunity good.

D. Burke has a full fledged ownership, having been engaged by Harwick Bros. to herd cows on the reserve this winter.

The Alberta Pacific is the first elevator to start building at Milo.

SOME FRONT LINE THINKING

Letters from the men overseas have been appearing a great deal in the press lately. Here's one with more than usual food for thought.

Many of us have not thought this war through. We need to get our thinking jacked up if the right idea is to grip the nations and transform the world. We have been content to see the superficial causes of the war and have felt that we are the unfortunate generation that has to fight it. Many think that after the war the unfortunate interlude in our lives will have ended and the world will settle down, at least we can.

"The fact is that we are fighting something worse than a war of arms. The Allies will win the war, but when it is won, there is still the battle of ideas. Only a better idea will win the thinking of the peoples, and only a shining alternative will convince them and drive out the false ideas."

"In Italy the shelled houses and bombarded roads stand as a silent witness of a civilization that has lost its way, of a nation that lacked sense leadership. Many today are thinking of plans for the post war world, but they are based on a material philosophy of life. Some plans find ready support because they offer undemanding solutions. Any plan which does not have the changing of human nature as a factor will fail."

We must have teamwork as a governing factor in our society. Teamwork in industry, industrial service in business. Civic and national policies free from self-interest. We must have sound homes where divorce is not a danger but an impossibility. Family life must become once again heart-beat of the nation. We must have permanent incentive that will carry us beyond the winning of the war to the building of a new world.

"For us all the call is to become fighters in the war of ideas, and rise to the heights of statesmen who will serve faithfully their nations. We have not earned the right to go back to a life of ease, but inherit through our victory of arms the responsibility of building the future. Now for us all the call is to become soldier statesmen who will give everything for our country in war or peace."

Germany crossed the Dutch frontier at Beek, entrance to the Rhine.

His underwear worth \$7.25, his overalls more than doubled in price. Fresh paint for shabby barns cost up to \$2.10 a gallon, new harness for his team \$25.00. His wife, too, noticed rising costs when her woolen underwear went up to \$5.00, and the family cook stove twice its former cost.

Our farmer received around \$2.50 a bushel for wheat and \$1.50 for corn. But if his crops were good, inflated prices would be paid for his inflated payroll. His cows cost \$140 each—when he sold two years ago at \$28. Inflated prices for day-old calves were \$16 each—they sold for \$18 two years later—much profit when had cost him \$25 a ton.

All this is proof enough that price control during this war has served Canada. It has worked, so far, because the people of Canada have been solidly behind it. Donald Gordon, chairman of the Prices Board has reiterated.

Butter ration in Australia recently has been reduced from eight ounces to six ounces weekly.

Quick March! Some lead soldiers and clock makers are back in the shops for the first time in three years. Toy paint sets are being manufactured for the first time in Canada.

Wool interlinings and elastic are among linings returning to 1941 fur models if materials are available since the Prices Board has removed the manufacturing restrictions on coats, jackets, capes and muffs made of fur.

Decorations available this year will include glittering stars and icicles made from lucite trimmings of airplane windows. Manufacturers aim to provide similar supplies of chocolate bars, chocolates and hard candy as last year although ribbon candy canes, each requiring manual finishing, will be in short supply due principally to lack of factory labor. Cut off by war from importing Christmas crackers from Germany and Japan, Canada has turned around and manufactured a good supply of her own.

COURTING TROUBLE TO EXPECT UTOPIA IN POST-WAR WORLD

Listening to the general trend of discussion of post-war expectations cannot but provoke apprehension. So much is expected that it scarcely appears possible that there will not be disappointment in some directions. Disappointment and dissatisfaction are almost certain to be followed by resentment. And this, in turn is apt to encourage a flight to the costly anarchy of political gibberish from which the recovery will be slow and painful.

On one hand there is a demand for higher wages, shorter hours and a higher standard of living. At the same time there is the call for the state to provide security in the form of higher pensions, family allowances, free health services and numerous other social reforms. The farmers are to be guaranteed prices above present levels. But there is little consideration of where the money is to come from to meet all the added costs and expenditures. The saying, "if it can be done in war it can be done in peace" is accepted as a sufficient answer. That war creates a tremendous

SGT. R. C. CLIFFORD IS AWARDED THE EFFICIENCY MEDAL

Sgt. R. C. Clifford who has been overseas for several years has been awarded the Efficiency Medal. Sgt. Clifford is the son of B. C. Clifford, and brother of Sgt.-Lieut. Art Clifford, D.P.C. He has been a member of the 22nd Battery for some years and when it went active he went overseas with it. He has seen considerable action in France.

There is little consideration if there is realization of the fact wealth depends on production. And production, if it is profitable must have markets. Moreover, Canada's production, which in many directions exceeds the possibility of home consumption, must have export markets. To do business in export markets Canadian agriculture must be ready to compete with products from other countries. They will not be able to do so if high prices, high wages and high taxation rains costs to a point where export business cannot be carried on profitably.

There is an instant demand that there shall be no return to the depression and unemployment of the thirties. What is ignored is that depression was, to a major degree, created by conditions outside Canada, over which we have no control.

(Continued on another page)

WILL NOT GIVE RATION COUPONS FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS

The local branch of the Red Cross Society has received the following letter from D. H. Tomlinson, for the Alberta Division, C.R.C.S.:

We are requested by our national headquarters to make known to all our branches the seriousness of the shortage of butter and sugar, and the fact that while these commodities are rationed, it is not possible to grant permits for rationed commodities to be used for strictly social functions.

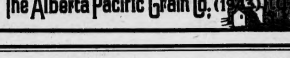
In a letter received by national headquarters from the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, at Montreal, they were advised that they were receiving many requests from Red Cross branches all over the region for rationed commodities to be used for teas or for serving meals at some local function. While the Ration Administrator admits that every application received is for some worthy cause, he cannot honor such requests. He finds it difficult to say "No" because of certain resentment being created. He felt, therefore, that if every division in Canada advised their branches that they should not make application for these rationed commodities that it would ease their problem, and prevent local resentment, particularly when their decision is backed up by widely publicized policy.

May we ask you, therefore, to be good enough not to apply to the Wartime Prices and Trade Board for any such commodities for social functions. Hoping that we may see your cooperation in this connection.

TEST YOUR GRAIN FOR GERMINATION

It is important to know the germinating quality of your grain. Your Alberta Pacific Agent will arrange for germination tests free of charge.

The Alberta Pacific Grain Co. (1944)



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GIVE WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

The Patriotic and Practical Gift

Space donated by the BREWING INDUSTRY OF ALBERTA

DEFERRED GRAIN

Operators of Country Elevators in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Our Agent will be pleased to serve you.

G. R. BEAUDIN, Agent, CLUNY

